

# NOTABLE VICTORY FOR GOVERNMENT IN THE DYNAMITE CONSPIRACY CASE

**Affecting Scenes in the Court Room When the Verdicts of Guilty Are Returned.**

By Associated Press.

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 28.—The government with stern, decisive swiftness today took into possession thirty-eight union labor officials, convicted of conspiracy in prompting explosions on non-union work through out the land, aiding the destruction which brought the loss of life at Los Angeles and carrying on a "reign of terror," declared to be unparalleled in the history of the country.

Almost the entire executive staff of the International Association of Bridge, structural and Iron Workers was convicted. Only two officials of that union now remain out of jail. At the head of the list of those convicted stands Frank M. Ryan, the president. It was in this Union, with its twelve thousand members, that John J. McNamara was Secretary-Treasurer, while he conducted the dynamite out of which the present convictions grew.

Today's convictions, on a scale unprecedented in a Federal court are the aftermath of the killing of twenty-one persons in the explosion of the Los Angeles Times. McNamara and his brother, James B., the Times dynamiters, convicted in California, are now in San Quentin penitentiary. Ryan and his fellow officials, the former associates of McNamara, are now Federal prisoners, awaiting sentence.

Two convicted, not affiliated with the Iron Workers, were found guilty of promoting the conspiracy.

Sixteen minutes in all was the time required by the court to receive the jury, read the verdict of "thirty-eight guilty" and dismiss the jurors. The verdict brought to an end the history of the dynamite trial.

It meant, except in the cases of Herman G. Seiffert, of Milwaukee, and Daniel Buckley, of Davenport, Iowa, the two found "not guilty," that the government's charges about the dynamite plots extending over six years, were sustained. It meant, also, that thirty wives, many with their children, who sat patiently through the long ordeal, would at last be separated from their husbands.

Important details yet remain in consequence of the verdicts. Punishments are to be imposed on the thirty-eight men by Federal Judge Anderson Monday morning at ten o'clock. The prisoners who receive terms longer than a year will be taken to the Federal prison at Leavenworth, Kansas. A special train will take them by a secret route. Details as to its leaving Indianapolis and arrival in Leavenworth will not be made public. It is learned that United States Marshall Edward Schmidt, who is to accompany the prisoners, already had prepared for the special which will leave as soon as possible after the sentences. A delay in the arrangement may be caused by appeals which may act as a stay of execution of the court's judgment.

Thirty-nine and a half years is the maximum punishment for any one prisoner in this case. It may vary from the maximum to any shorter imprisonment or fine the court wishes to impose.

Motions and appeals will be made Monday. Senator Kern, now in Washington and William Harding, another attorney for the defense, stated motions in behalf of all the men will be offered. District Attorney Miller said he would oppose any appeals for light sentences in the cases of certain prisoners. Tonight the prisoners, four in each cell, occupy two tiers of cells in the Marion county jail. The prisoners were handcuffed after the courtroom was cleared of spectators, and between deputy marshalls, marched five blocks through the streets in the brilliant winter sunlight to the county jail. An hour after their arrival they were served the regular noonday meal, a half loaf of bread, tin of coffee, beef and cabbage. The prisoners, visible one to another through the bars were variously downcast and cheerful. Some professed to take the verdict in light spirits, while disappointment was plainly written on the countenances of others.

Extra guards were placed about the jail to prevent a demonstration by crowds. Wives and children of the prisoners were ordered with other spectators out of the court room where some wept when the verdict was rendered and attempted to climb the railing separating them from their husbands. Later in the streets

Now it was a baby crying from the rear of the court room, where the wives and children of the defendants sat; now it was the heavy voice of a man seated in the witness chair and defending himself against the charges of a nation-wide conspiracy, in which officials of union labor were deeply concerned. Witnesses from near and far came and went, but those whose fate rested

with the jury remained there, listening to the accusations and to the oft-repeated story of the killing of twenty-one people in the Los Angeles "Times" explosion.

The court room itself seemed a fitting setting for that sombre story. Surrounded by great marble pillars, with the daylight shut out by heavy curtains, and the judge installed before an allegorical painting of Jus-

tice, that court room day after day echoed the stories of violence, of the discovery of burnt fuses and bursted infernal machines, of midnight visits of mysterious men in alleys, in empty houses, in lonely country roads, or on the tops of buildings.

The vision of a dark spectre with a bomb under his arm became a familiar image in the minds of those who listened. Back of the railings, amid the spectators, sat the relatives of the defendants. Three rows deep across the room were the defendants. Among the the score of attorneys sat perhaps the most picturesque defendant, massive in build, florid in complexion, always studiously occupied, now copiously filling his note-book when the testimony was exciting; now, when the trial lagged, burying his spectacled nose in a Latin version of Omar Khay-

yam. He was Olaf A. Tveitmoe of San Francisco.

Another man toward whom the eyes of the spectators often strayed was Herbert S. Hockin. He sat apart, between bailiffs, during much of the trial, for he had been branded by the court as "a man who could not be trusted by any one." It was Hockin who was named as having promoted the dynamiting business; it was Hockin who was accused of "holding out" on the pay of the dynamiters; it was he who was said to have caused a quarrel in the ranks of the McNamaras and McManigal, and it was he who finally was charged with "betraying for his own gain" those with whom he once associated, and with whom he was affiliated in the iron workers' union.

Gray-haired and old beyond his years sat Frank M. Ryan, president

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### HISTORY OF THE DYNAMITE CASE.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Dec. 28.—It was a scene blended with tragedy that confronted those who week after week sat through the historic "dynamite conspiracy" trials.